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ACTION EAP-00

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INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 INR-07 EUR-00 SS-00 CIAE-00 H-01
NEA-06 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 HA-09 L-03 TRSE-00
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O 010724Z JUL 89 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2357
INFO AIT TAIPEI IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL SHANGHAI IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL SHENYANG IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8671
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CHENGDU POUCH)

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TAGS: MOPS, PINS, PREL, PGOV, PHUM, SOCI, CH
SUBJECT: TFCH01 : SITREP NO. 69, JULY 1, 1700 LOCAL

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2. SUMMARY: AN INCREASED NUMBER OF PEOPLE'S ARMED POLICE, ALL WEARING HELMETS AND CARRYING MACHINE GUNS TOOK UP POSITIONS IN FRONT OF THE CHANCERY AND THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, BUT NOT AT THE CONSULAR SECTION, ON JULY 1. CHARGE CALLED MFA TO ASK IF IT

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HAD ANY INFORMATION REGARDING A HEIGHTENED THREAT TO THE EMBASSY. THERE HAVE BEEN NO REPORTS OF HEAVILY ARMED GUARDS OR INCREASED SECURITY AROUND OTHER EMBASSIES.

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3. THE PUBLIC SECURITY BUREAU (DSB) DETAINED AN AMCIT CHINESE INTERPRETER, QUESTIONING HIM ON THE ACTIVITIES OF NEW YORK TIMES REPORTER NICK KRISTOFF. PSB MAY BE PREPARING TO EXPEL ANOTHER U.S. JOURNALIST.

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4. BEIJING MAYOR CHEN XITONG HAS REVISED THE OFFICIAL DEATH TOLL, SAYING THAT OVER 200 CIVILIANS DIED AND THAT ONLY "TENS OF SOLDIERS" DIED DURING THE DEMONSTRATIONS. ZHAO HAS BEEN STRIPPED OF HIS LAST REMAINING GOVERNMENT POSITION BY THE NPC. THEK OFFICIAL PRESS CONTINUED ITS ATTACK ON THE U.S.G. FOR GIVING REFUGE TO FANG LIZHI, AND THE U.S. NEWS MEDIA FOR ITS REPORTING ON CHINA.

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5. THE DIRECTOR OF THE PRC'S NATIONAL AIRLINE (CAAC) CALLED IN THE CHARGE ON JUNE 29 TO EXPRESS CHINESE CONCERN ABOUT U.S. SANCTIONS AGAINST CHINA. A CHINESE OFFICIAL HAS STATED THAT A STUDENT'S POLITICAL THINKING WILL BE A MAJOR CRITERION IN OBTAINING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PERMISSION TO STUDY ABROAD.
END SUMMARY

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INCREASED NUMBER OF ARMED POLICE AROUND EMBASSY

6. ON JULY 1 AROUND 12 NOON, EIGHT PEOPLE'S ARMED POLICE (PAP) WEARING HELMETS AND CARRYING MACHINE GUNS TOOK UP POSITIONS AROUND THE MAIN CHANCERY BUILDING. THEY APPEAR TO BE REPLACING THE REGULAR TWO OR THREE PAP GUARDS WHO CARRY ONLY REVOLVERS AND NORMALLY GUARD THE CHANCERY. SIX HELMETED PAP GUARDS WITH MACHINE GUNS ALSO TOOK UP POSITIONS IN FRONT OF THE COMPOUND WHICH INCLUDES THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, AND THE PRESS AND CULTURE SECTION. THIS TOO IS IN PLACE OF THE TWO REGULAR PAP GUARDS THERE. NO CHANGE HAS BEEN OBSERVED IN FRONT OF THE THIRD EMBASSY LOCATION HOUSING THE CONSULAR AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECTIONS. THE INCREASED "SECURITY" APPEARS TO BE DIRECTED ONLY AT THE U.S. EMBASSY. NO CHANGE HAS BEEN REPORTED BY WESTERN EUROPEAN EMBASSIES.

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7. CHARGE CALLED MFA DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL LU PEIXIN TO INQUIRE IF THE CHANGE INDICATED AN INCREASED SECURITY THREAT TO THE EMBASSY. CHARGE

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NOTED WE WOULD BE HOLDING OUR FOURTH OF JULY
CELEBRATION SHORTLY, AND ALSO NOTED THE INCREASE IN
PUBLIC SECURITY VEHICLES AND PLAINCLOTHESMEN AROUND
THE CHANCERY. LU SAID HE WOULD GET BACK TO US IF HE
HAD ANY INFORMATION.

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AMCIT WORKING FOR U.S. NEWS MEDIA TEMPORARILY DETAINED

8. AMCIT JIN SU, WHO WORKS AS AN INTERPRETER FOR THE

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TAGS: MOPS, PINS, PREL, PGOV, PHUM, SOCI, CH
SUBJECT: TFCH01 : SITREP NO. 69, JULY 1, 1700 LOCAL

NEW YORK TIMES AND ABC, INFORMED THE PRESS AND CULTURE SECTION (P&C) THAT HE WAS TEMPORARILY DETAINED BY THE PUBLIC SECURITY BUREAU (PSB) ON JUNE 30. CHINESE AUTHORITIES QUESTIONED JIN ON THE ACTIVITIES OF NEW YORK TIMES REPORTER NICK KRISTOFF. P&C BELIEVES THE PSB MAY BE BUILDING A CASE TO EXPEL THE NEW YORK TIMES REPORTER.

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BEIJING MAYOR REVISES OFFICIAL DEATH TOLL AMONG CIVILIANS

9. THE JUNE 30 EVENING NEWS AND JULY 1 PRINT MEDIA GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO A REPORT BY BEIJING MAYOR CHEN XITONG BEFORE THE NPC STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUNE 30. HE TOLD THE COMMITTEE THAT DURING THE DEMONSTRATIONS OVER 200 CIVILIANS DIED, INCLUDING 36 STUDENTS, AND THAT 3,000 WERE INJURED. HE ADDED THAT 6,000 SOLDIERS AND POLICE WERE INJURED AND THAT "TENS OF THEM DIED." THIS IS THE LATEST "REVISION" IN THE ESTIMATES OFFERED BY SENIOR CHINESE LEADERS. IN THE PAST THEY HAVE CITED OVER 300 DEATHS, MOSTLY AMONG THE MILITARY, AND ONLY A FEW CIVILIAN DEATHS.

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10. THE MAYOR ALSO REPORTED THAT 1,280 VEHICLES WERE DAMAGED OR BURNED, INCLUDING 1,000 MILITARY TRUCKS, 60 ARMORED CARS, 30 POLICE CARS AND 120 BUSES. TOTAL DAMAGE REACHED USD 350 MILLION. THE MAYOR ALSO SAID THAT WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION WERE STOLEN DURING THE DEMONSTRATIONS AND HAVE NOT BEEN RECOVERED. HE DID NOT ELABORATE ON THIS PROBLEM.

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11. MAYOR CHEN SAID THAT "THERE WERE THOSE WHO WERE GUILTY OF BEING RIOTERS AND DESERVED TO BE AMONG THE DEAD AND WOUNDED." HE ALSO STATED THAT SOME INNOCENT PEOPLE, INCLUDING DOCTORS AND PEOPLE HELPING TO KEEP ORDER, WERE UNINTENTIONALLY KILLED OR INJURED. IN WHAT APPEARED TO BE A CONCILIATORY COMMENT, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD SERIOUSLY CONSIDER HOW BEST TO HELP THOSE INNOCENT PEOPLE WHO WERE INJURED AND THOSE WHO SUFFERED INJURYING IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES. THE MAYOR CAME OUT STRONGLY IN SUPPORT FOR CRUSHING THE DEMONSTRATION AND ADDED THAT CHINA WILL NOT BOW TO FOREIGN PRESSURE, "NOT TODAY, NOR IN THE FUTURE."

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NPC DISMISSES ZHAO FROM LAST GOVERNMENT POST

12. JULY 1 PRINT MEDIA REPORTED THAT THE SEVENTH NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS STANDING COMMITTEE DISMISSED FORMER GENERAL SECRETARY ZHAO ZIYANG FROM HIS LAST REMAINING GOVERNMENT POST, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE CENTRAL MILITARY COMMISSION. THE JULY 1 PEOPLE'S DAILY STATED THAT THE DECISION WAS BASED ON A LETTER FROM CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMISSION DENG XIAOPING TO THE NPC REQUESTING THE DISMISSAL OF ZHAO FOR "COMMITTING SERIOUS MISTAKES."

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OFFICIAL PRESS ATTACKS U.S.G. ON FANG LIZHI

13. THE JULY 1 PEOPLE'S DAILY PRINTED AN ARTICLE WHICH IT STATED WAS WRITTEN BY TUFTS UNIVERSITY LAW PROFESSOR ALFRED RUBIN, AND REPORTEDLY APPEARED IN THE JUNE 28 ISSUE OF THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR. THE PEOPLE'S DAILY ARTICLE STATED THAT PROFESSOR

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SUBJECT: TFCH01 : SITREP NO. 69, JULY 1, 1700 LOCAL

RUBIN BELIEVES THE U.S.G. DECISION TO GIVE REFUGE TO
FANG LIZHI AND LI SHUXIAN VIOLATED THE 1961 GENEVA
CONVENTION, AND THAT THE U.S.G. HAD EXCEEDED ITS
INTERNATIONAL LEGAL LIMITS. THE PEOPLE'S DAILY
REPORTED THAT PROFESSOR RUBIN SAID THE U.S.G. ACTION
CONSTITUTED "IS AN ILLEGAL INTERFERENCE IN CHINA'S
INTERNAL AFFAIRS."

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OFFICIAL PRESS ATTACKS U.S. PRESS

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14. A JULY 1 PEOPLE'S DAILY ARTICLE CONTINUED THE ATTACK ON THE AMERICAN NEWS MEDIA, BUT PRESENTED A MORE SOPHISTICATED APPROACH IN ITS CRITICAL COMMENTS OF THE AMERICAN PRESS. THE ARTICLE STATED THAT THE ESSENCE OF U.S. PRESS FREEDOM WAS SPREADING RUMORS FROM SO-CALLED RELIABLE SOURCES, AND SAID THAT THIS WAS TYPIFIED BY U.S. REPORTING DURING THE RECENT EVENTS IN CHINA. THE ARTICLE ALSO TRIED TO SHOW THE INCONSISTENCY IN REPORTING OF FACTS AND EVENTS BY THE VARIOUS NEWS AGENCIES. (A TRANSLATION OF THE ARTICLE WILL BE CARRIED LATER IN THE EMBASSY'S MEDIA REACTION CABLE.)

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CAAC DIRECTOR SAYS U.S. SANCTIONS MAY GROUND HIS AIRLINES

15. THE EMBASSY REPORTED (BEIJING 17859) THAT CHINA'S NATIONAL AIRLINES (CAAC) DIRECTOR HU YIZHOU MET WITH CHARGE JUNE 29 TO ASK FOR RELIEF FROM U.S.G. ECONOMIC SANCTIONS, WHICH HE SAID COULD RESULT IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GROUNDING OF SOME OF HIS AMERICAN MANUFACTURED AIRCRAFT. HE QUOTED A TELEX FROM THE LITTON COMPANY STATING THAT BECAUSE OF NEW U.S.G. EXPORT CONTROL GUIDELINES, THE COMPANY COULD NOT GUARANTEE THE RETURN OF INERTIAL NAVIGATION SYSTEMS SENT FOR REPAIR. CHARGE RESPONDED THAT WE WOULD INQUIRE ABOUT THE SITUATION AND INFORM CAAC AS SOON AS WE HAD ANY INFORMATION. THIS WAS THE SECOND TIME IN TWO WEEKS THAT CAAC OFFICIALS HAVE CALLED IN U.S. EMBASSY OFFICIALS TO EXPRESS CHINESE CONCERN ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF U.S. SANCTIONS.

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TIGHTER CONTROLS ON CHINESE WISHING TO STUDY OVERSEAS

16. THE JULY 1 ENGLISH-LANGUAGE CHINA DAILY AND XINHUA CHINA NEWS SERVICE REPORTED THAT THE STATE EDUCATION COMMISSION (SEC) WILL "READJUST" ITS POLICY FOR SELECTION OF STUDENTS TO STUDY OVERSEAS. A SEC OFFICIAL WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT "ATTENTION USED TO BE PAID MAINLY TO A CANDIDATE'S PROFESSIONAL SKILLS AND FOREIGN-LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY WHILE NEGLECTING THE PERSONAL QUALITY AND POLITICAL ATTITUDES...THE STUDENTS' LEVEL OF PATRIOTISM AND WILLINGNESS TO SERVE THEIR COUNTRY SHOULD BE MAJOR CRITERIA." THE "ADJUSTMENT POLICY" WILL ALSO AFFECT FOREIGN STUDENTS, PARTICULARLY THIRD WORLD STUDENTS, WISHING TO STUDY IN CHINA. THE ARTICLES DID NOT ELABORATE WHAT NEW CRITERIA WILL BE APPLIED TO FOREIGN STUDENTS. BURGHARDT